



(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/059412 A3

PCT

- LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE,
SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ,
VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

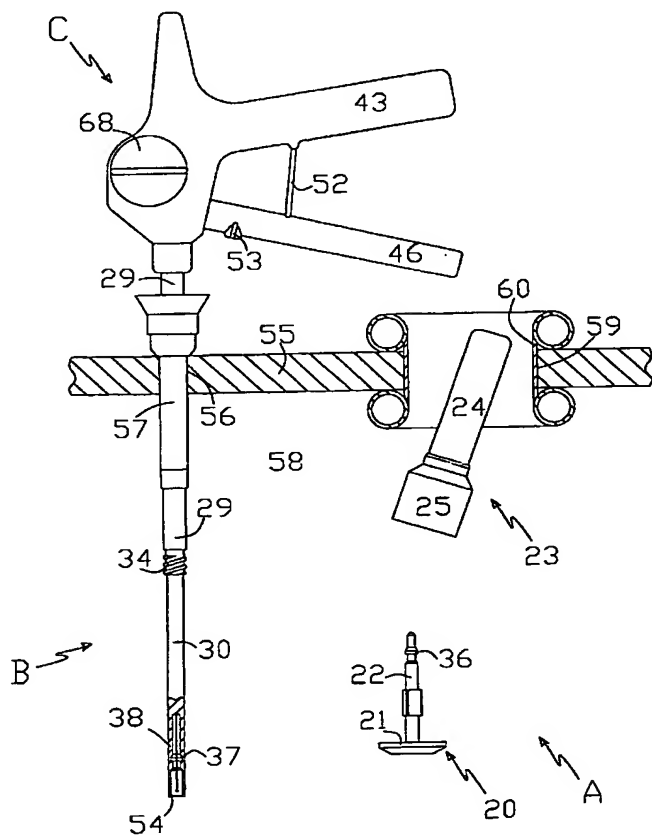
- (84) Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

- Published:**
— *with international search report*

- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:**
13 November 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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- (57) Abstract:** A minimally invasive device includes inner unit (a), intermediate part (b) and outer unit (c). The intermediate part is an integral part of the inner or outer unit, designed for passing through trocar port (57), and has a maximal transverse dimension substantially lesser than one of inner unit A. The latter, in the form of a surgical stapler head is inserted into a body cavity (58) via hand port (60) put together with outer part (c) through intermediate part (B) and after surgical operations withdrawn from the body cavity via hand port (60). The maximal transverse dimension of the inner unit is substantially more than one of the trocar port (57) inner orifice. There is also a coupling means adapted to operative connection / disconnection of the inner and outer units inside the body cavity (58).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL02/01029

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17 /32

US CL : 606/167

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 606/167,142,143,205; 604/167

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,333,773 A (Main et al) 02 August 1994 (See the abstract and col. 6, lines 15-65).	1-25
A	US 4,289,133 A (Rothfuss) 15 September 1981 (See col. 2, lines 30-65 and figs 2, 5-6).	38-46
A	US, 5,171,249 A (Stefanchik et al) 15 December 1992 (See the abstract).	47-53

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

01 July 2003 (01.07.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

13 AUG 2003

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